discovery tapes

3 DRIVE & VIEW from CASTLETON

EXPERIENCE SCENIC PEAKLAND DRIVES

THROUGH SIGHT AND SOUND

discovery tapes

Acknowledgements

Discovery Tapes Ltd. would like to thank all those who have helped to create and produce this series of 'Drive & View' tour guides. Their enthusiasm and support has provided much encouragement along the way.

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STARTING OUT ON YOUR ROUTES

The time needed to complete these narrated tours is entirely up to you. Stop whenever you wish, visit wherever you want, have a picnic or take a stroll, but please remember to stop the tape whenever you park. Should you miss a direction or piece of information, simply rewind the tape to that point and continue on your journey.

The start-point for both of our drives into the countryside which surrounds Castleton, begins in the Car Park, situated close to the centre of the village.

But before we begin our journey ~ ***PLEASE*** take a few moments to prepare for your Discovery Tapes Drive.

1. **LOAD CASSETTE** & **CHECK TAPE** is positioned at the **START** of the **ROUTE** you wish to undertake.
2. **POSITION** your vehicle **OPPOSITE** the hill upon which stands Peveril Castle.
3. **START CASSETTE** & **LISTEN** to the **INTRODUCTION** to our journey.
4. **COMMENCE** your Discovery Tapes Drive ~ We hope that **YOU** Enjoy Your Day!

CAUTION!

Whilst enjoying the drives and scenery of the Peak District National Park ~ always expect the unexpected!

Each Discovery Tapes Drive covers 25-35 miles, much of the time spent on quiet country roads ~ but around the next bend may be a tractor, a herd of cows or a group of walkers . . .

. . . SO PLEASE TAKE CARE ~ DRIVE SAFELY

CASTLETON ~ HOME TO THE CAVERNS

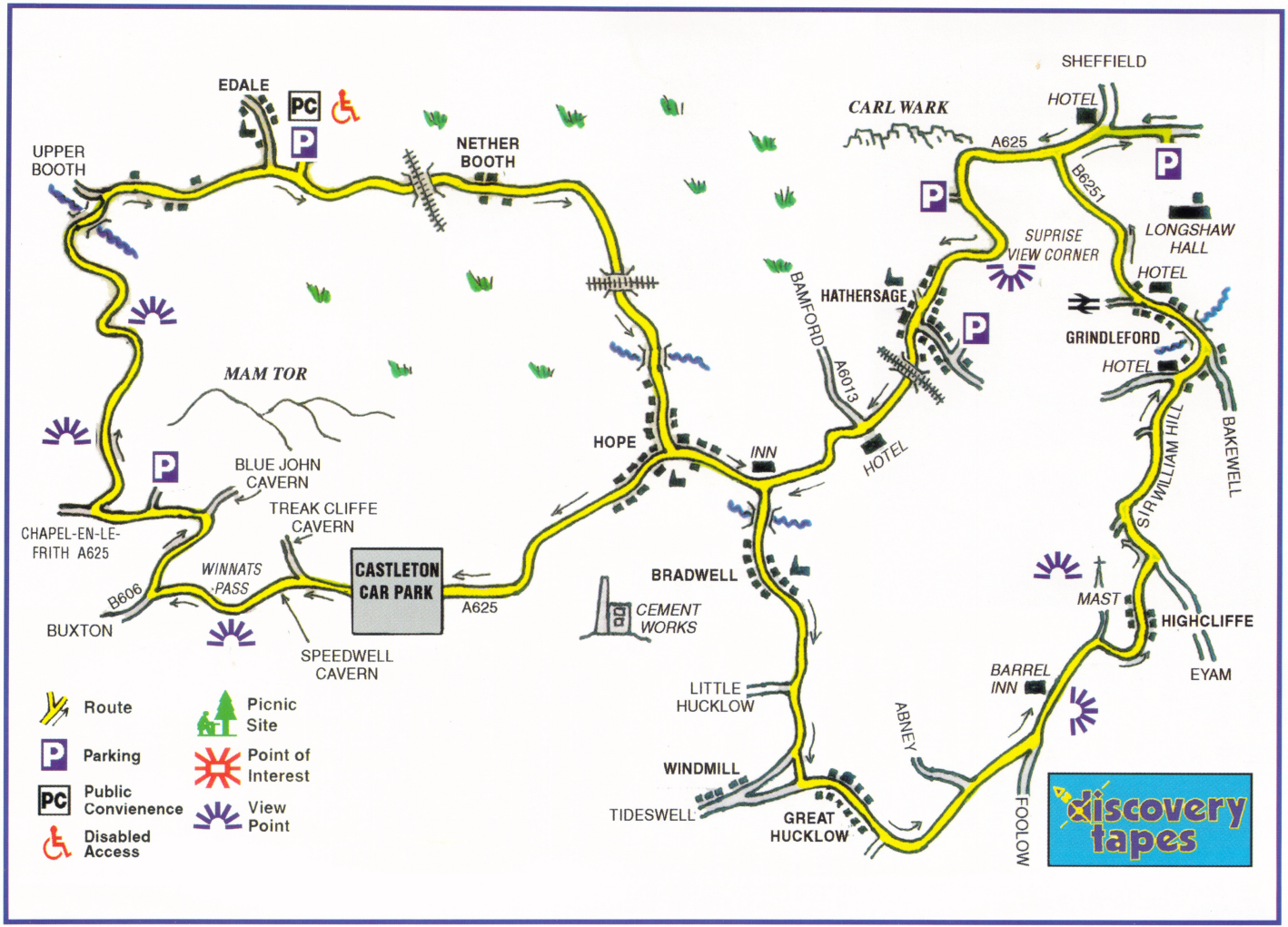
Famed for its limestone caves, Castleton sits at the western end of the Hope Valley, in the shadow of the imposing Mam Tor and the impressive Winnats Pass, which provides the only gateway to the north. Also overlooking the village, from high on the hill behind Peak Cavern, is Peveril Castle, built in Norman times for the first bailiff of the Peak Forest, William Peverel. The 60 feet high keep was built by Henry II in 1176 and the castle later saw the surrender of the Scottish king, Malcolm II.

The caves and local scenery have long made Castleton attractive to visitors and the four main caverns open to the public - Peak, Treak Cliff, Blue John and Speedwell - offer a variety of fascinating journeys into the limestone underworld that lies beneath the surrounding hills. Each year, Garland Day, a ceremony with pagan roots, is held at the end of May, when a 'king' on horseback and in period costume leads a procession wearing a bell-shaped garland of flowers.

Visitors have been travelling to Castleton since the advent of the Hope Valley railway over a hundred years ago and the village is now well-served with car parks, inns, cafés, accommodation and a delightful selection of gift shops, some of which specialise in ornaments and jewellery which is fashioned from the locally-mined and world-famous Blue John Stone.

Details of general and local information can be found at the Castleton Information Centre, situated in Castle Street. Open Easter to October (Weekends in Winter) Tel: 01433 620679.

Peak Cavern ~ Open Easter - October ~ 10.00-17.00 Tel: 01433-620285
Blue John Cavern ~ Open Daily ~ 09.30-17.30 Tel: 01433-620638
Treak Cliff Cavern ~ Open Daily ~ 09.30-17.30 Tel: 01433-620571
Speedwell Cavern. ~ Open Daily ~ 09.30 - 17.30 (16.30 in Winter) Tel: 01433-620512


CASTLETON ~ ROUTE 1
EDALE
PC
P
UPPER BOOTH
NETHER BOOTH
SHEFFIELD
CARL WARK
HOTEL
A625
B6251
P
LONGSHAW HALL
SUPRISE VIEW CORNER
HOTEL
HATHERSAGE
BAMFORD
A6013
P
GRINDLEFORD
HOTEL
MAM TOR
HOPE
INN
HOTEL
S.I.R.WILLIAM HILL
BAKEWELL
P
BLUE JOHN CAVERN
TREAK CLIFFE CAVERN
CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH A625
WINNATS PASS
B606
CASTLETON CAR PARK
A625
BRADWELL
CEMENT WORKS
MAST
HIGHCLIFFE
EYAM
BUXTON
SPEEDWELL CAVERN
LITTLE HUCKLOW
BARREL INN
ABNEY
WINDMILL
TIDESWELL
GREAT HUCKLOW
FOOLOW
Route
Parking
PC Public Convienence
Disabled Access
Picnic Site
Point of Interest
View Point
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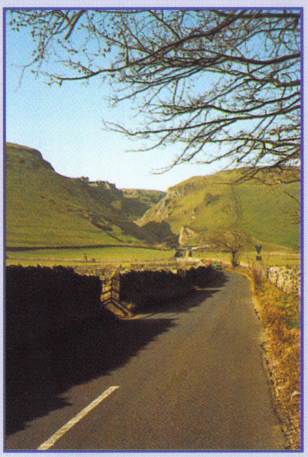
WINNATS PASS to EDALE

WINNATS PASS

From Castleton, our journey leads up the impressive limestone gorge of Winnats Pass, formerly the main turnpike road through to Sparrowpit, prior to the building of the A625 in 1812. At the entrance to the gorge we pass Speedwell Cavern, formerly a lead-mine from around 1771. Visitors to the cave experience an underground journey by boat through the old lead-mine workings, as far as the Bottomless Pit, a large cavern situated half a mile into the hillside.



MAM TOR

The A625, originally built for horse traffic, was finally closed in 1977, following land slippages on the hill of Mam Tor which rises above to a height of over 1,700 feet. Surrounded, near the summit, by the large earth works of an Iron Age fort, today's hillside and skies are often festooned by the bright colours of the encircling hang gliders.

Following a short uphill walk from Mam Nick Car Park, one can enjoy and explore the spectacular views along the ancient ridgeway towards Lose Hill, a relatively easy walk of approximately 2 miles.

EDALE

The descent into Edale is dominated to the north by the harsh, high plateau of Kinder Scout. Edale is a collection of five small communities, or 'booths' - Lady Booth, Barber Booth, Grindsbrook Booth, Upper Booth and Nether Booth. The village is a major centre for walking and *The Old Nag's Head* pub is the startpoint for the Pennine Way, which ends some 250 miles away in Scotland.

Edale Information Centre ~ Open All Year - Tel: 01433 670207

HOPE to GRINDLEFORD

We enter the village of Hope along a street of old stone cottages, passing alongside the *Cheshire Cheese* pub towards the centre of the village, where we turn left and head towards the neighbouring village of . . .

BRADWELL

A centre for lead-mining since Roman times, the people of Hope and Bradwell have depended upon the local mining and quarrying for generations. The local cement works, opened in 1929, is the largest cement manufacturing plant in the North of England. Because of its position in an area of outstanding beauty, much has been done to harmonise the works with the landscape as part of a 50-year landscaping plan.

From Bradwell our journey climbs through the dale and out onto the hillier country around Great Hucklow. Driving onwards, past the *Derbyshire & Lancashire Gliding Club*, we come to the *Barrel Inn*, at Bretton, with its fine views over the peakland moors.

GRINDLEFORD

Descending into Grindleford, we cross over the bridge and past the *Maynard Arms* towards the station. The old station, now a café and open every day of the year, sits directly alongside Totley Tunnel which, at 6,230 yards, is the second longest in the country.

This area is a popular haunt with walkers and each year a Roman Catholic Mass is held at nearby Padley Chapel to commemorate two catholic priests who were discovered hiding there in 1588 ~ followed by brutal martyrdom at Derby on July 25th., when they were hanged, drawn and quartered.

LONGSHAW LODGE to HATHERSAGE

Longshaw Lodge, built by the Dukes of Rutland as part of a large shooting estate, is now owned by the National Trust. The 1600 acres include many footpaths, including Rhododendron Walk and paths to Padley Gorge. The lodge is privately owned and on the site the world-famous sheepdog trials are held each September.

National Trust Visitor Centre, Shop & Café ~ Open All Year (Weekends only in winter) - Tel: 01433 631708

MILLSTONE EDGE

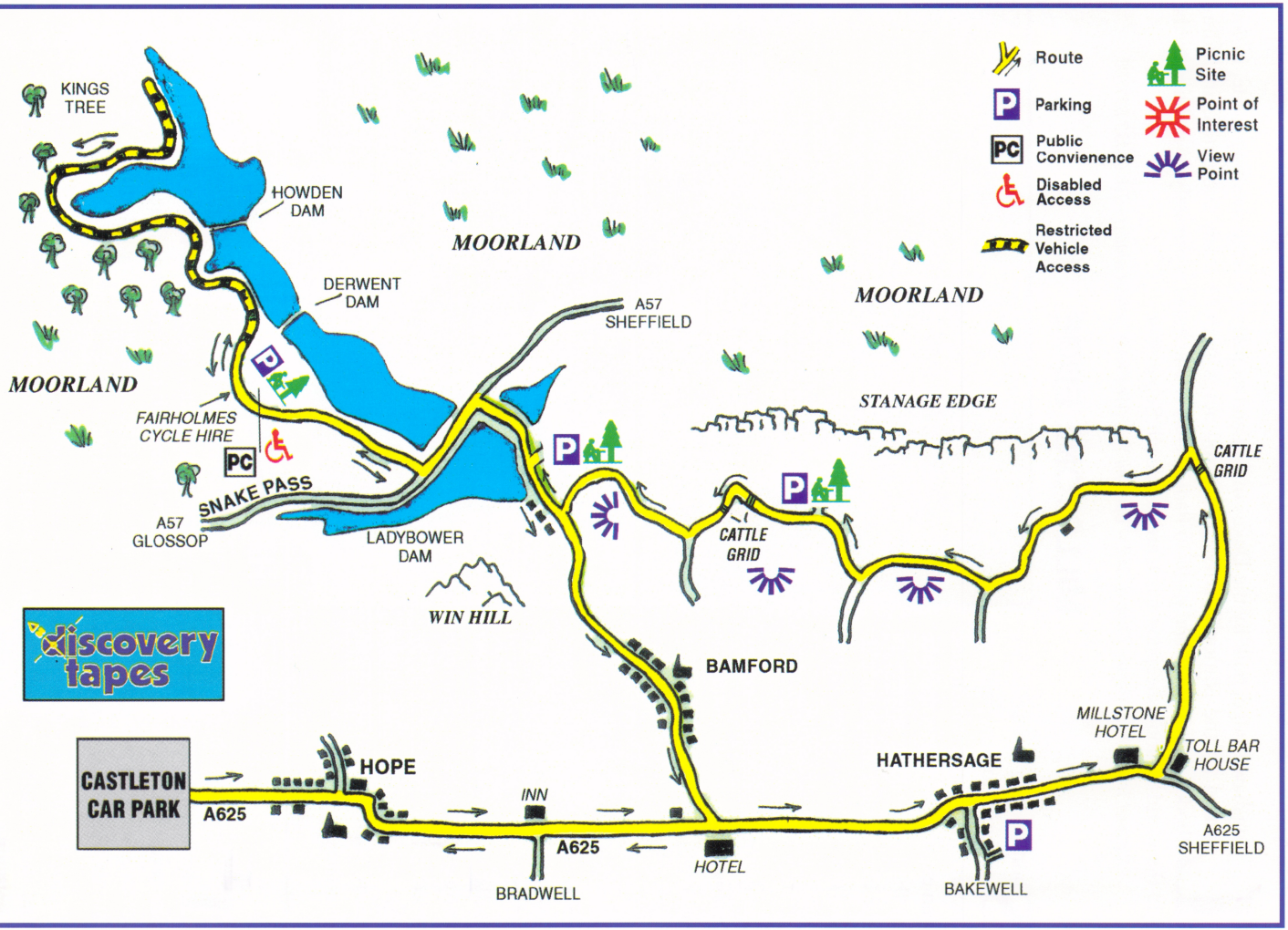
Shortly along the A625, we will come to a car park and picnic area, from which one can explore the edges and take in the breathtaking scenery of the Hope Valley which unfolds before one's eyes upon reaching Surprise View.

From these gritstone 'edges' millions of tons of stone was quarried over the years, not least the provision of stone for the walls of the Derwent and Howden dams, which between 1901 and 1916 utilised some one and a quarter million tons of stone. The production of millstones was once a popular industry, which crashed overnight in 1860, and along the 'edges' are to be found many abandoned stones from that time.

HATHERSAGE

The beautiful church dates from 1381 and is famous for the grave of Little John, said to be a bowman from Hathersage, who returned home after the death of Robin Hood. The village has seven old houses or 'halls', said to have been built by a member of the Eyre family for his seven sons. Following visits to stay with her friends, the local vicar and his sister, Charlotte Bronte used the village as a backdrop when writing her novel Jane Eyre.

Today, the village caters well for the passing traveller, with its shops, public houses and cafés and, additionally, the heated open air swimming pool which is open from mid-May to mid-September.


CASTLETON ~ ROUTE 2
Route
Parking
Public Convienence
Disabled Access
Restricted Vehicle Access
Picnic Site
Point of Interest
View Point
KINGS TREE
HOWDEN DAM
DERWENT DAM
MOORLAND
MOORLAND
MOORLAND
A57 SHEFFIELD
FAIRHOLMES CYCLE HIRE
PC
SNAKE PASS
A57 GLOSSOP
LADYBOWER DAM
WIN HILL
STANAGE EDGE
CATTLE GRID
CATTLE GRID
BAMFORD
MILLSTONE HOTEL
TOLL BAR HOUSE
HATHERSAGE
A625 SHEFFIELD
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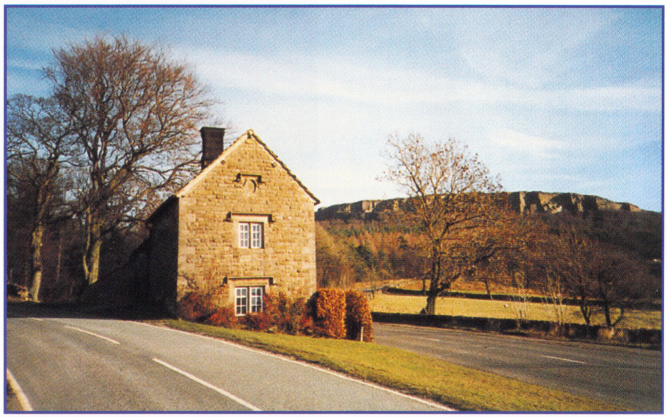
CASTLETON CAR PARK
A625
HOPE
INN
A625
HOTEL
BRADWELL
BAKEWELL

STANAGE EDGE to WIN HILL

On the road to Hathersage we pass through the hamlet of Brough, where the Roman fort of Anavio remained occupied for almost 300 hundred years until military activity ceased around A.D. 360. The High Peak Garden Centre and its Outdoor Clothing shop are well worth a visit as we travel along the valley towards Hathersage.

Having passed the *Millstone Hotel*, on the outskirts of Hathersage, keep a look out for the Toll Bar Cottage, where we fork left and travel, once more, out onto the high moorland.

This road, across an area known as Ringinglow, soon reaches Stanage Edge and the marvellous panoramic views overlooking the expanse of the Hope Valley.



STANAGE EDGE

Stanage Edge has become a beacon for rock climbers over the years, providing an array of over 500 climbing routes - from the 'absolute beginner' to the 'unclimbable', which can tax even the most accomplished 'rock athlete'. There are car parks along this route where one can take time out to explore the 'edges', or simply rest and take in some of the most breathtaking and impressive views in the country.

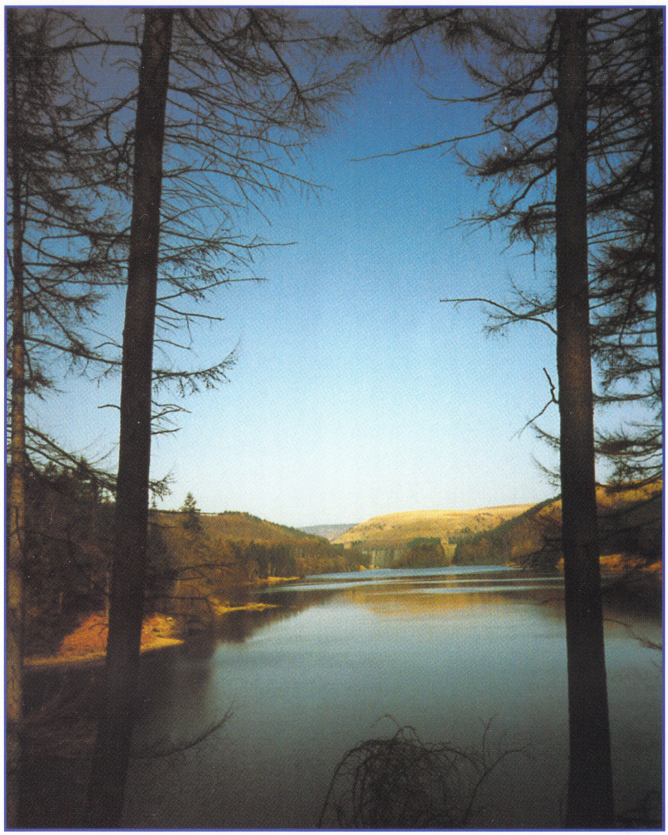
WIN HILL

As we begin our descent from Stanage Edge, we can see over to the heights of Win Hill. Legend has it that, in the 7th. century, King Edwin of Northumbria camped his victorious army on this hill, prior to a battle with his adversary, King Penda of Mercia, camped on the nearby Lose Hill.

THE DAMS

Derwent and Howden reservoirs were built between 1901 and 1916, with the Ladybower being completed and opened by King George VI in 1945, when some 50,000 people gathered for the occasion. The dam wall of Derwent is some 114 feet high and 1,110 feet long, a smaller version of the Howden wall, with walls some 178 feet thick at the base and narrowing to 10 feet at the overflow crest.

On a visit to these famous waters, one can only marvel at the breath-taking beauty of the surrounding hills and the magnificent engineering that went into the creation of these man-made lakes, which service the water needs of a number of major towns and cities throughout the Midlands.



Visits to the Dams are extremely popular and in the height of summer the area can become heavily congested with visitors. At weekends and bank holidays access restrictions are in operation and motor vehicles are not allowed beyond the Fairholmes Car Park and Information Centre.

Here, one can partake of refreshments, hire cycles, stroll along the shores of the reservoirs, view the fortress-like walls of the dams or even take more strenuous walks through the woods and onto the higher moorlands.

Fairholmes Information Centre - Open Easter to October and Winter Weekends - Tel: 01433 650953

THE DAMS to HOPE

The building of these massive dams was not without cost to the local inhabitants of the villages of Ashopton and Derwent. In building the Ladybower, the two villages were lost forever under the waters, with the villagers being re-housed nearby at Yorkshire Bridge.

During the construction of the dams the village of Birchinglee was built, the remains of which can still be seen today. This village of wooden and corrugated iron buildings housed the dam workers and their families and, by 1910, had almost 1,000 residents, school, hospital, police station and even cells !

BAMFORD

Bamford lies on the edge of the National Park and has an annual carnival in the third week of July and sheepdog trials which are held on Spring Bank Holiday Monday.

Much of the village history stems from a Colonel Moore who, in the 1800's, ran the local cotton mill, built homes and a school for the workers' families and even commissioned the building of St. John's church in 1861.

HOPE

For several hundred years this whole area was a royal hunting forest and in the local church 13th. century memorials carry symbols of the forest officers or 'woodroffes'. Hence, the name of the local *Woodroffe Arms Hotel*, situated next to the church, which is open all day and a popular place for both drink and food. Opposite is the *Old Hall Hotel*, which also has a specially designed play centre for children with excess energy to burn.

Regular sheep and cattle markets are still held in the village, bringing in farmers from the neighbouring hills, who are equally attracted to the annual Hope Show which is held over August Bank Holiday.

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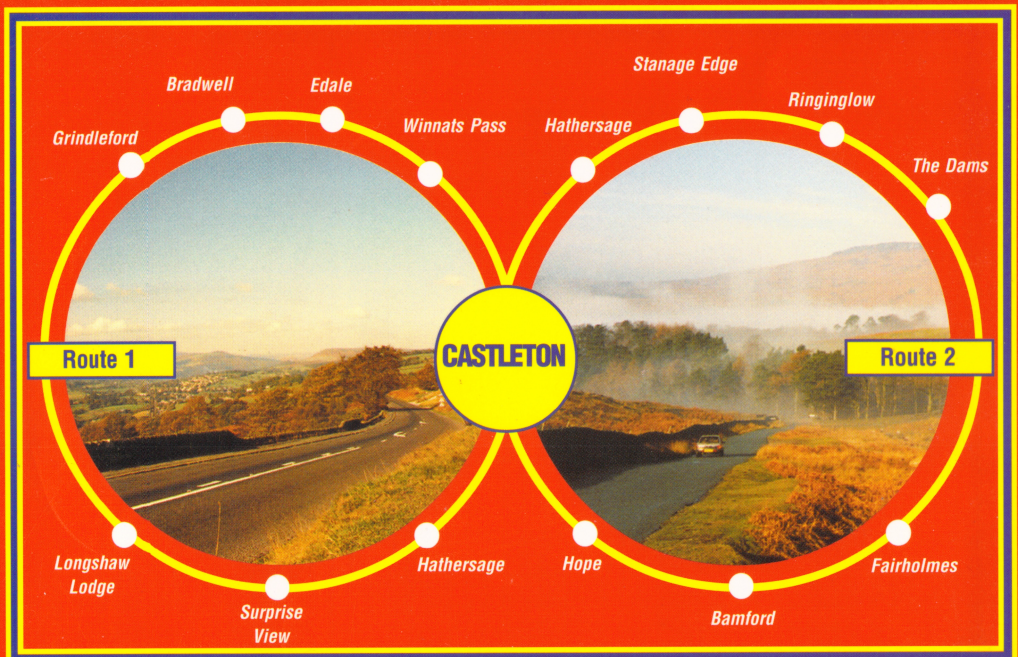
ENJOYING BEAUTIFUL BRITAIN!

ENJOY TWO SCENIC DRIVES STARTING AND FINISHING FROM THE HISTORICAL DERBYSHIRE TOWN OF CASTLETON



Self-Guided Tours through the Peak District

Each pack contains two narrated tours on cassette, together with a full-colour information guide and route maps.

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